

FISCAL NOTE

HB 2951 - SB 3522

February 27, 2006

SUMMARY OF BILL: Designates the jury in a civil action, unless jury trial is waived, as the exclusive finder of fact. Prohibits the judge from acting as thirteenth juror or disturbing a jury verdict. Requires the Court of the Judiciary to impose discipline on any judge that makes a ruling that deviates from the rule of law.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – \$315,000

Assumptions:

- The requirements of this bill would significantly increase the workload of the Court of the Judiciary and would require additional attorney positions.
- The recurring expenditures reflect the salaries, benefits, and other related costs for three additional attorney positions to serve as disciplinary counsel for the Court of Judiciary.
- The disciplinary counsel for the Court of Judiciary is retained by contract and there are no one-time costs associated with these positions.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a smaller, more compact script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director